

HOUSE RESOLUTION 273

By Lundberg

A RESOLUTION to recognize Rod Irvin on the occasion of his retirement as Director of Government Relations at Eastman Chemical Company.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their years of industry; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Rod Irvin is one such estimable person who has served with distinction for many years as Director of Government Relations at the Eastman Chemical Company; and

WHEREAS, in this position, Mr. Irvin has been responsible for Eastman's federal, state, and local government relations, and his duties have included management of corporate, employee, and financial communications, media relations, e-business communications, and communications planning and strategy; and

WHEREAS, Rod Irvin will be taking a much deserved retirement after a lifetime of prodigious service in the not-for-profit and corporate public relations field; and

WHEREAS, after earning a Bachelor of Arts degree from Milligan College and a Master of Science degree in communications from the University of Tennessee, Mr. Irvin began his enviable career at Milligan College, where he served as Director of Communications for almost nine years; and

WHEREAS, Rod Irvin is an accredited member of the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA) and has served the organization in a number of leadership roles, including the association's Corporate Task Force, the Global Initiatives Committee, and the Nominating Committee; he has also chaired PRSA's corporate section; has been a delegate to the PRSA Assembly several times; a charter and former board member of the Volunteer Chapter, from which he was bestowed with a lifetime achievement award and the Harvey Cobert Award; is a charter member of the Northeast Tennessee chapter; and continues to serve as a professional advisor for the PRSSA chapter at East Tennessee State University; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Irvin is an active and important part of his community and his profession, participating in numerous worthy organizations, including Leadership Kingsport and the Kingsport Area Chamber of Commerce, of which he is a former member of the board of directors; he has also lent his support to regional tourism, serving as a member of the board and past Chair of the Kingsport Convention and Visitors Bureau, marketing Vice President for the Northeast Tennessee Tourism Council, the marketing committee and coordinator for Kingsport's Fun Fest, and was the Marketing Chair of Kingsport's inaugural First Night; and

WHEREAS, Rod Irvin also contributes his time and numerous talents to the Model City Coalition and the United Way, in addition to serving as a former member of the Mountain States Health Alliance Board of Directors and on the President's Executive Council at Milligan College; and;

WHEREAS, Mr. Irvin exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, Rod Irvin is also active in the Washington, D.C. community, where he is a member and former Chair of the National Association of Manufacturers Communications Council, a member and Regional Vice President of the NAM Public Affairs Steering Committee, and is an enthusiastic member of the Public Affairs Council Board of Directors, the Business Roundtable, and the Board of Governors at Ford's Theatre; as a member of the American Chemistry Council, Mr. Irvin serves on the Federal Legislative Round Table and the Phthalate Esters Communications Task Group; and

WHEREAS, his many awards and accomplishments aside, Rod Irvin is most appreciative of the love and support he receives from his wife, Ann, their four children, and four grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Rod Irvin has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his colleagues; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we extend to Mr. Rod Irvin our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement as Director of Government Relations at Eastman Chemical Company and every continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.